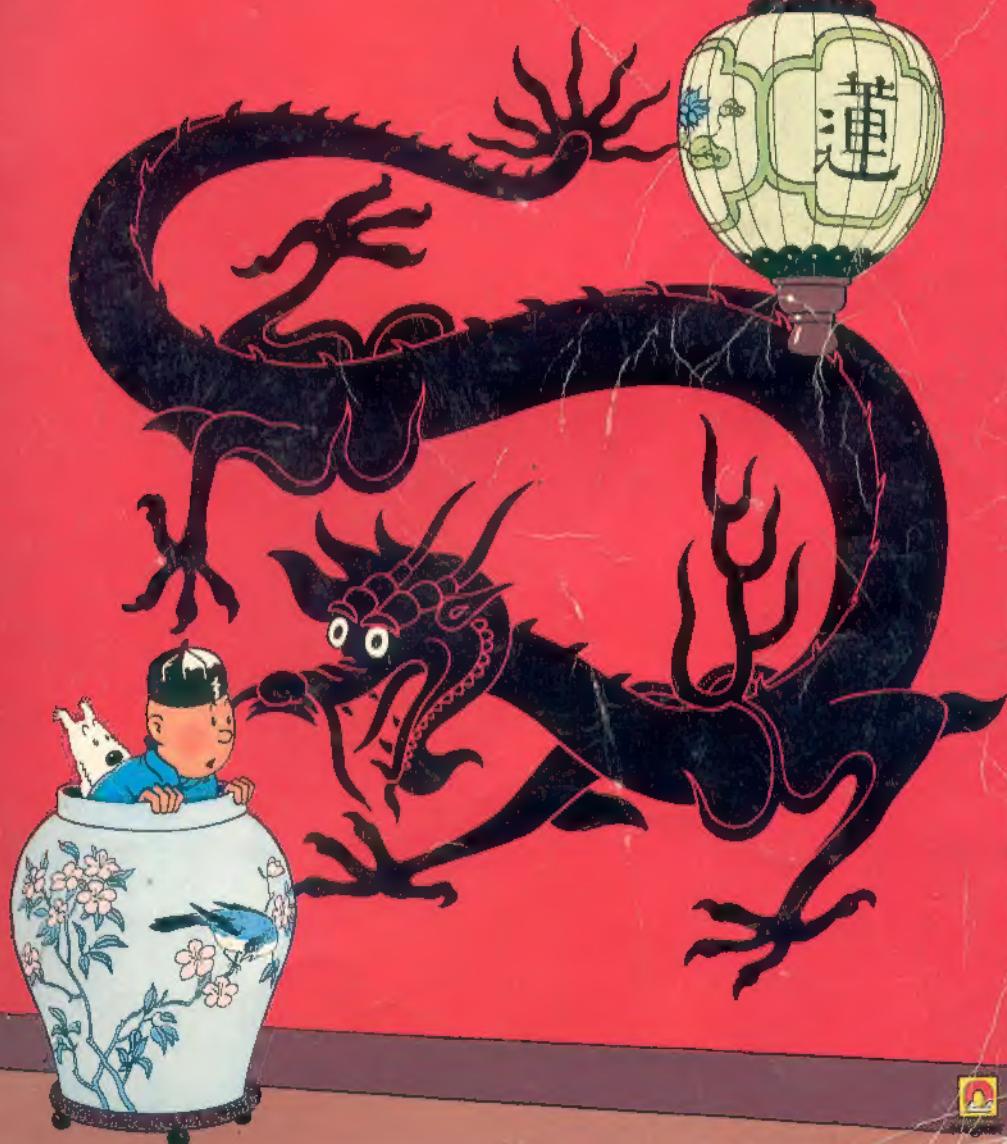


HERGÉ
THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN

THE BLUE LOTUS



THE BLUE LOTUS

藍蓮花

TINTIN AND SNOWY are in India, guests of the Maharaja of Gaipajama, enjoying a well-earned rest. The evil gang of international drug-smugglers, encountered in Cigars of the Pharaoh, has been smashed and its members are behind bars. With one exception. Only the mysterious gang-leader is

unaccounted for: he disappeared over a cliff.

But questions have still to be answered. What of the terrible Rajahjuice, the 'poison of madness'? Where were the shipments of opium going, hidden in the false cigars? And who really was the master-mind behind the operation?



My dear Tintin... I've asked the famous Fakir Ramacharma to demonstrate his remarkable powers.

How interesting.
I'm curious to see him...

I'm not!
I remember the last one!



He's quite extraordinary!

Isn't he?



I see an enemy! You think him dead, but he plans revenge... Be on your guard!

I also see a fakir, a disgrace to our brotherhood, dedicated to your downfall. He is close to you... very close to you. He spies upon you... He has a terrible weapon... and there is no defence.

Beware... I see another man... a man with a yellow skin... His hair is black... He wears glasses... Take every care! He has sworn to destroy you!

Tintin sahib, there is a stranger in the gallery, asking for you. He says he has come from Shanghai to see you.

From Shanghai?

From Shanghai? That's a fair distance... just to talk to me... How peculiar...

Mr Tintin, sir?

Me? Yes...

Yellow skin... black hair... glasses... Careful, Tintin!

I have something extremely important to tell you. Can we talk here?

Certainly. We're quite alone: look...



Mitsuhirato... Someone needs you... I... Shanghai... Remember that name, Mitsuhirato... Mitsu... Mitsuhirato...

Good. Then?



The other fakir, Tintin,
the one I sent to prison,
the one with the poisoned
darts, he's escaped...

I thought
as much!

Look... the poison of madness!

By Brahma!
How awful!...

WOOAH!

WOOAH!

I must go to China at
once... Poor chap... he just
had time to tell
me I'm needed in
Shanghai.

We must pack
the trunk,
quickly...

...I see an
enemy... You
think him dead,
but he plans
revenge...

Well, we'll soon see!



We haven't found him.

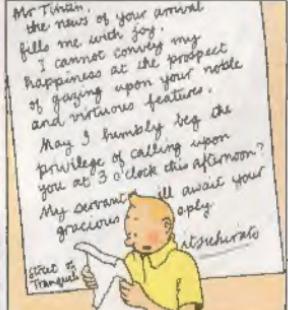
They
must have
taken him!

Some hours later...

They're bringing your trunk down... You've really made
up your mind to go?

Yes... and no...
I can't go without
Snowy...



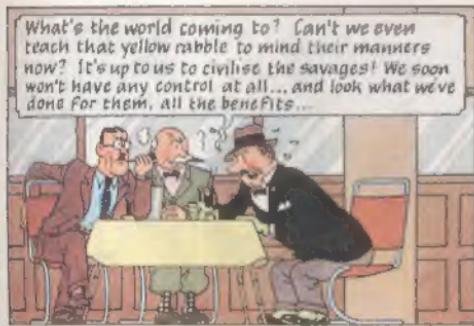


Excellent!... Please tell the messenger his master is too kind. He mustn't put himself out. I will call upon him myself.

I wonder how our Mr Mitsuhiroto knew I was here... Anyway, he's certainly a man with impeccable manners...

Mr Mitsuhiroto,
Street of Tranquillity...







My dear Mr Tintin, you must go back to India at once. The Maharaja of Gaipajama is in great danger. I sent a Chinese messenger to tell you to guard the Maharaja. Didn't you see him?

Yes, but he was struck by a poison dart and only managed to say two words: your name and Shanghai.
Then... now... I sense...

Despicable creatures! Such persons stop at nothing! Believe me, you were wrong to leave the Maharaja. Who knows what they will do in your absence?...

Who are 'they'?

Please pardon me, I cannot tell you more: my own life would be in danger... But I beg you to take heed and go back to India.

I see... thank you. Maybe I'll take the next boat back. Meanwhile I'll telegraph the Maharaja to be on his guard.

Excellent plan... Ah, I was forgetting. Beware of everyone here, and especially the Chinese. Your life hangs by a thread...

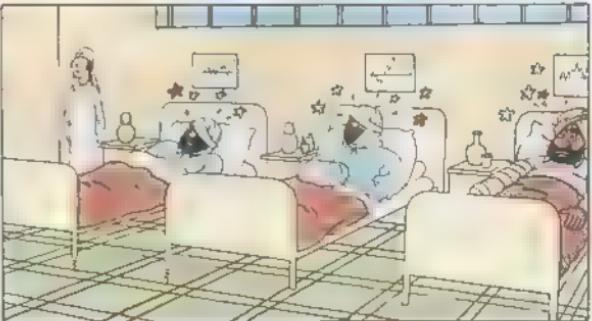
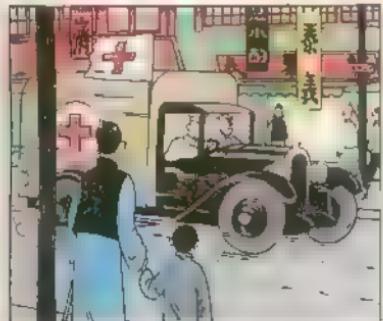
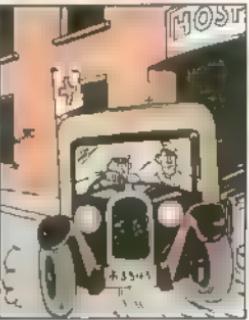
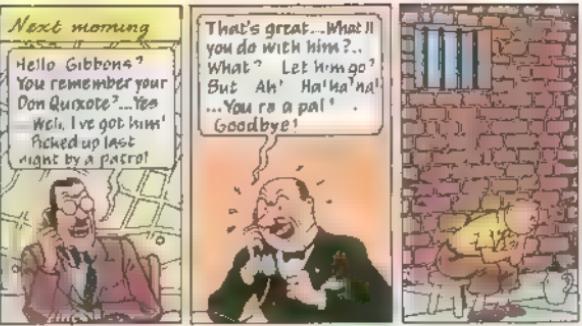


A true Japanese knows everything, honourable sir.



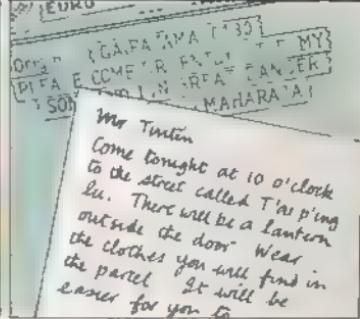






Obviously they knew I was innocent. And yet... they didn't go after the attacker

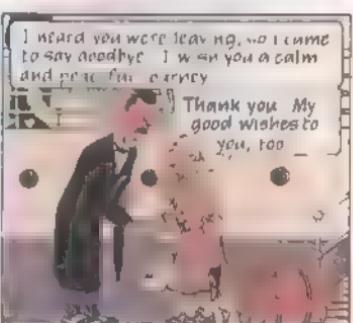
A telegram for you, Mr Tintin, and a letter and this parcel..



All very mysterious.. What's going on now?







There night

Are you COMING "SNOWY"?
Let's take a stroll
round the deck...

Allright I'll
catch you up.



There! It's done!... You haven't
used too much chloroform, have you?

Put some on another handkerchief

PLOP



That's it!
Here goes!

SPLASH

You saw ?
They made
the signal !

We'll have
a look

Here are the boxes

There the
sampan is
coming back

What do you make
of it Snowy?..
Last night, sailing
to Bombay. This
morning, here in
this room

Anyway where
exactly are
we?

We'll very soon
find out

The next morning

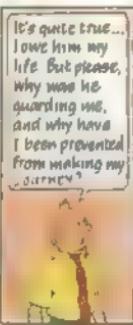
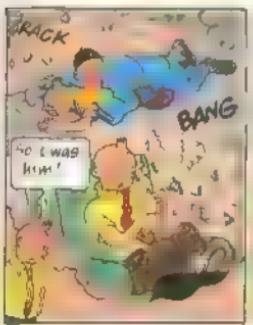
Aha! There's
someone who'll be
able to tell us

Excuse me,
sir

THE MADMAN'
SHANGHAI!

Have you found the way? No?
... Good! Then I'll cut OFF
your head!

Again!



Yes, Mitsuhirato. He's a Japanese secret agent in China... and at the same time, one of the most active and evil of men...



Hello? Hello? Tokyo here. Ah it is you



Yes, Excellency. All is well. Tintin? On the way to India... recalled by telegram, sent by me, of course. No, not easy. Those meddling Sons of the Dragon tried to keep him here... I had to take extreme measures



Perfect! Now the coast is clear for you know what succeed in that and you will receive the Order of Fujiyama first class!



I'm certain to succeed, Excellency, provided your propaganda is well organised... It will be?... That is good!... Goodbye then, Excellency.



We hoped you would be willing to help us, so we sent a messenger to India... But Mitsuhirato's spy network is excellent. They attacked the messenger and he went mad. Yet you still came, and



Snowy! He's gone!

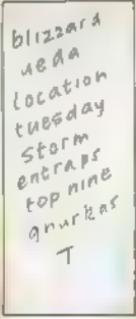
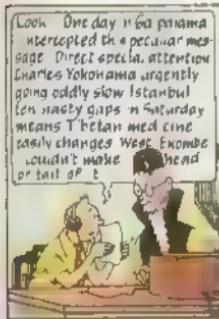
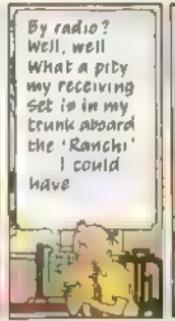


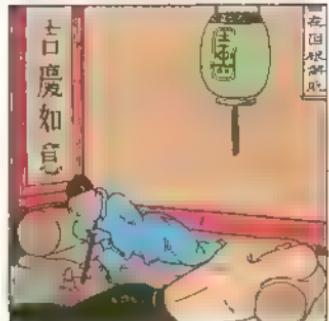
I'm going to help you to find the way. Don't worry, there's nothing to it. It just means cutting... off your head

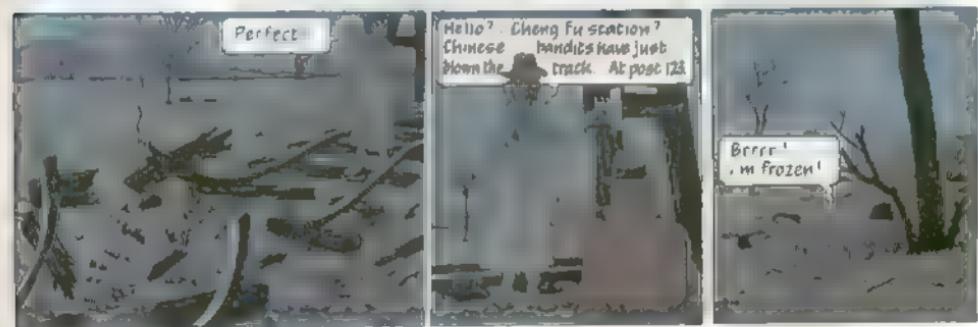


Look how sharp the blade is.









The cart! If I can reach it

Suffering Samurais Tintin'

Ministry of War
Tokyo Stop
Chinese bandits have blown up
Shanghai Nanjing railway

Damage to property not significant
Stop

Not significant.
We'll soon see about that

This is Radio Tokyo. The
effronted Chinese bandits know no bounds!
news just in details of
head-on attack on the
Shanghai Nanjing railway

Having blown
up the track
the bandits

... stopped
the train and
attacked the innocent
passengers

Reports tell of many killed trying to defend themselves

We've Japanese dead.
After the attack

The bandits numbering more than a hundred fled with their loot

Tokyo Express Special Chinese bandits attack passenger train. Many dead. Read all about it!

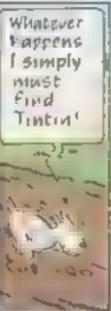
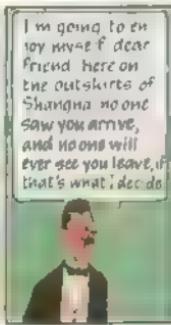
Japan must never forget her duty as the guardian of law and civilization in the Far East. Glory to our brave soldiers who have now gone to defend this noble cause!

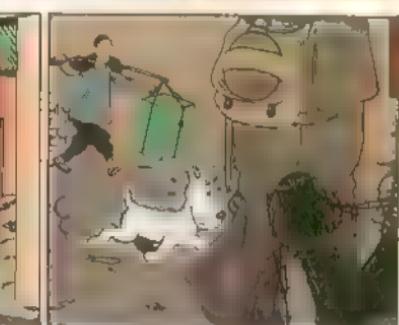


and once again Japan has fulfilled her mission as guardian of law and civilization in the Far East! ... If we have been forced to our utmost regret to send troops into China, it is for the good of China herself!

He he. Don't say I didn't warn you! China is an unhealthy place for little Nosy Parkers!

...





Seven suffering
Samurais!
That's not
Rajahah... So
what did I?

Chang went to
watch the house of
Mitsuhirato,
Venerable. He
has returned.
Send him
here at
once

I was hidden in the
next room. I put
coloured water in
place of the Rajahah,
and I've brought you
the real poison.
I took care of his knife
and his gun
too...

I'll soon find him. He
can't have gone far

There!!

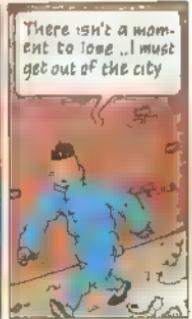


Kamikaze! The blade is
made of rubber.

And perhaps that's made
of rubber as well!

An hour later

Major, I'm
Japanese... I've
been half murdered by a young European, a
Chinese now. His
name is Tintin!





Too late! Jap
anese patrols
are watching
the gates. I
can't get past!

How to escape from
the city? ...



YOU'RE THE ONE WITH
A JAPANESE PRICE
ON YOUR HEAD!



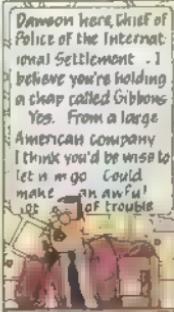
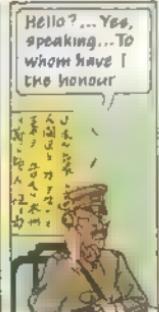
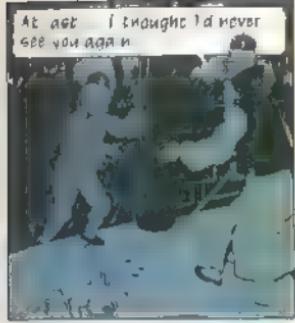


So? You are sure of your facts?

Absolutely certain Major. I saw him clearly as I'm seeing you!

If we walk fast we'll be back with Mr Wang by tonight





You've really made up
your mind then?

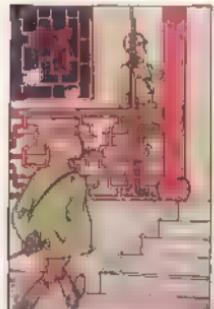
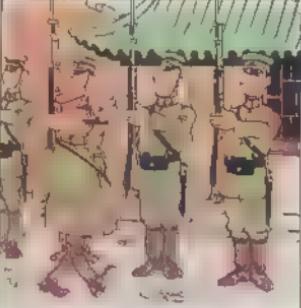
Yes. But don't worry.
All will be well... And
I keep in touch with you

Now how am I going to get
myself into the city?

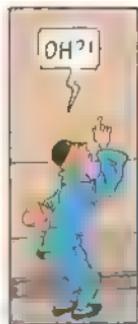
What? Still not
caught him? Seven
days suffering Sam-
urais! Very well,
double the reward!
Ten thousand yen for
for his capture!

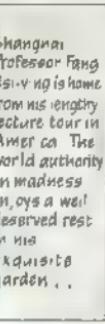
There's a new general
coming here this morn-
ing on a tour of ins-
pection. I have every-
thing in perfect order.
Turnout, barracks,
the lot.

Present
arms



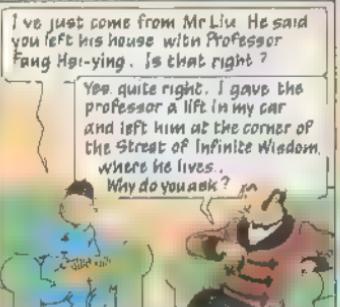
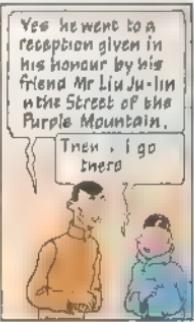
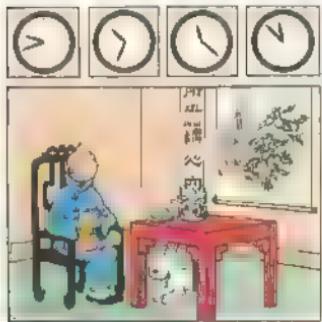
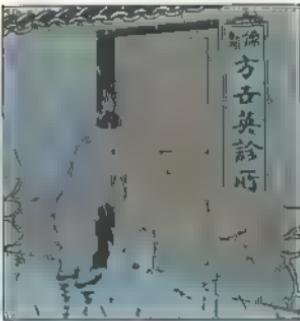


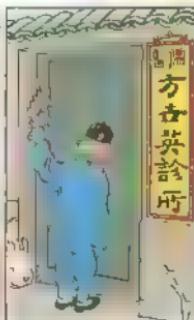




Shanghai Professor Fang Hsi-yung is home from his lengthy lecture tour in America. The world authority on madness enjoys a well deserved rest in his exquisite garden...







Oh it is you sir! Come please! I have just received a letter from Honourable Master..."

A letter?

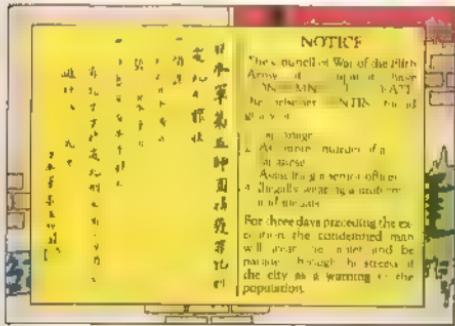


Dear Chen
I have been seized by bandits demanding a ransom of 50,000 dollars. It is essential the police do not look for them. If they are alarmed they will kill me.

The ransom is to be left within a fort at the old temple about an hour's journey from Tukow on the right bank of the Yangtze Kiang. If I do not receive sufficient money

I'm going to look for the Professor while I'm gone will you look after this package? Please, take the greatest care of it.





Really?

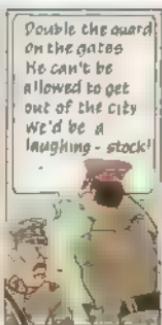


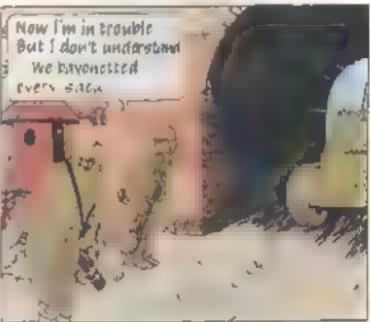
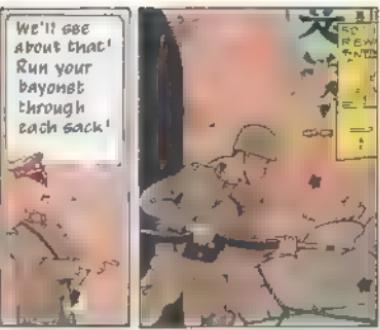
That's all?



Well, that's torn it.
Now I know what's
in store for me







Where can he have gone?



Sergeant major! The sentry! He's here!



Hello? Yes. What? Someone stole an armoured car? It isn't possible; you must be mad! ... Very well, I'm coming!



It's our lucky day! Everything went like clockwork!



I've had enough! Enough, d'you hear? They'd steal a whole regiment and all you'd see would be a puff of smoke!



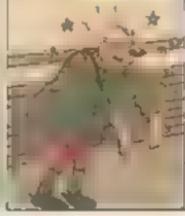
Why didn't you go after them immediately? ... Answer me! Why not?



We couldn't. All the other vehicles had been sabotaged



Then for heaven's sake, why didn't you send aeroplanes?



Three-quarters of an hour since they took off! What are they doing?



RRRING



Yes, General. We found the armoured car halted 20 kilometres away... Yes, we landed and had a look

.. Empty .. No, no one at all ... I don't know. But sir? Hello? ... Hello? ...



Bunglers, bunglers, bunglers! The lot of them! Who knows where Timon is now?

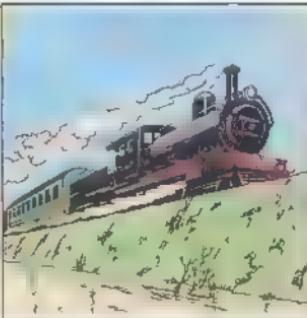


Let's take it step by step. If we're going to save your son we must find Fang Hsi-ying. Then we'll take care of Mitsukirato and his gang ..



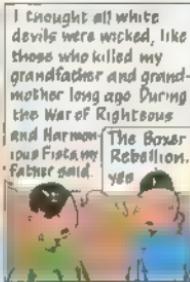
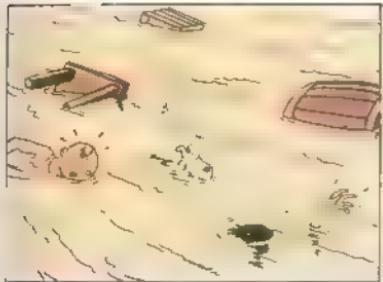
I'm going tomorrow to Hukow, on the Yangtze Kiang. That's where the ransom for the professor is to be paid to the kidnappers.

The next morning

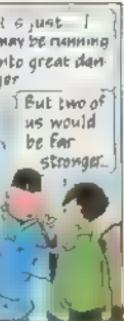


Didn't you know? . The river has broken its banks. Everyone is fleeing from the floods. I doubt whether you will be able to reach Hukow at all.





I have just received a telegram. He caught a man this morning for Hukow...



What an excellent idea! - It remains to be seen if the Chief of Police will agree...

Oh, I can vouch for him, General... look



9 J M Dawson,
Chief of Police of the
International Settlement
owe the sum of 10,700
dollars to Mr Mitsuhirato

Shanghai J M Dawson
16 x 31

He! he!
Marvelous!

Next day

Mr Mitsuhirato?
Very well,
show him in



Good morning, Mr Mitsuhirato
What fair wind blows you here?



I come to beg a favour - If you agree to grant it, then in return I'll forget all about that trifling sum of money you owe me

What are you just now at?



A reason? ... How should I know?
What if you suspect him of involvement in the kidnapping of Professor Fang Hsi-ying, for example...

That's an idea



Quite simply, Tintin is now in Hukow
And I want you to get him arrested.

Hukow? That's Chinese territory.
My jurisdiction is limited to the International Settlement.



Of course, but the Chinese wouldn't refuse you permission to go after a European, even outside the Settlement...



No, maybe not...
But what reason can I give?
Tintin hasn't committed any crime...



Chinese Police Head-quarters. Good morning, Mr Dawson.
What? ... Fang Hsi-ying? You've got a lead? ... A European?
And you want a pass for your detectives.
Of course.

That's it... We'll have the pass tomorrow morning. My men will leave as soon as it comes



A happy arrangement. You arrest Tintin, and let him go for lack of evidence. By chance, he falls into our hands

Right... and you cancel that trifling debt of mine.



Hukow



My father had a friend in the town. We'll ask if we can stay with him.

Of course . What greater happiness! My friend's son under my humble roof...

You already have travel permits. This is a safe-conduct from the Chinese authorities. It will facilitate your mission ...

POLICE HEADQUARTERS

All Chinese authorities are hereby directed to render whatever assistance may be required by the bearer of this pass

A rotten job!

Just our luck! Ordered to arrest a friend!

軍警當局特許
與以贊助於持
此執照者

公安局

There's a train later this evening That gives us time to get ourselves ready.

late morning

What a life All night in the train, then three hours walk Hukow at last

Just as well we came in disguise... Precisely'

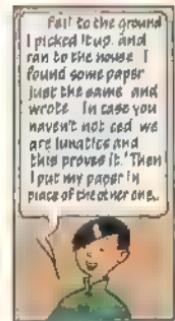
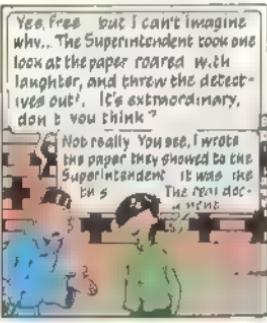
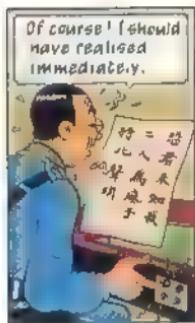
Imagine the sensation we'd have caused, coming to a place like this in European clothes ..

隨意小面

Don't look now, but something tells me we're being followed ...

燕銀草





Botheration! Telegraph lines to Shanghai are cut because of the floods. We'll have to go ourselves.

To be precise... Shanghai will be flooded with telegrams because we cut ourselves

Here's the storm. I think we'd be safer to go back down.

You're right, Chang.

Meanwhile, in Hukow.

Here's my messenger! You've got news o' Tintin's arrest, that's for sure!

Arrest failed. Tintin free. Instructions awaited. Seventy seven suffering Samurais!

I want this finished! Desperate cases call for desperate remedies! 'Liquidate!' One word that's enough!

What a beastly business travelling all night

All because of that rotten commissar!

The next morning

That is the old temple they mean

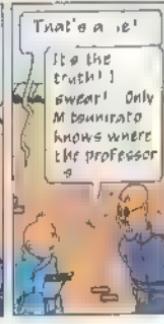
A lot of tourists must visit this old temple. Look, Chang, there's even a photographer

Picture of you together, gentlemen? Ready in five minutes

OK? If you like

Ready now. Watch the birdie!

BANG-BANG





Next morning

That's the last of the passengers... and still no sign of Tintin!

No such chief! He wasn't on the train I reckon he hopped off en route.

Infuriating! Wretched little brat! Always outwits us at the last minute!

It's dark now. We can risk it.



Good thing we jumped when the train slowed outside the station! I'm sure someone would have been waiting at the door.

Mr Mitsubishi? Yes, it's me. I'm afraid not. Slipped through our fingers. Yes, I'm sorry as you are. What do you expect? I did my best.

Policement, I suppose I have to do it myself, for the umpteenth time.

Come in.

TAT

TAT

TAT

TAT

TAT

TAT

TAT

Master Tintin is in Shanghai! I saw him with a Chinese boy. They got into a taxi but I couldn't hear the address they gave the driver.

Try... get Yamato... Get busy! Try to a cover where he's gone to ground, and who's hiding him. Understand?



The gods be praised! We meet again!... You must rest for a few days... Give your wound a chance to heal.

I will. Then we must deal with Master Mitsubishi!



A week later

You're sure it doesn't hurt any more?

Not a bit, Chang. Look all back to normal!

You're sure Tintin's there right now?

That night

There's Mitsubishi's house. While I get in, do you keep guard?

OK



Why shouldn't he be?
He's been there for
over a week...

You're right Yamoto.
It's just that I'm
longing to get my
hands on the lot of
them!



What's the matter?
You seem worried...

I'll explain later
Chang. Hurry! We
haven't a moment
to lose.

A car, quickly
We need a car!

At last... there's
one now

Quick driver quick!... Take us
to the Nanking road!

Look here, I'm not
a taxi! Can't
you see this is a
private car?

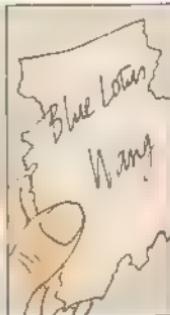
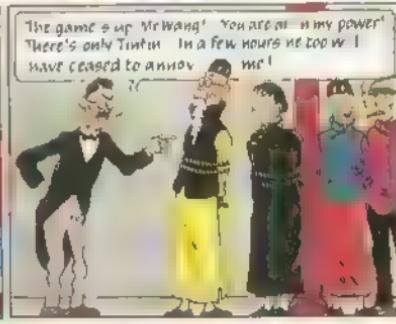
Doesn't matter!
For heaven's
sake get
going!...
Please!...
Lives are at
stake

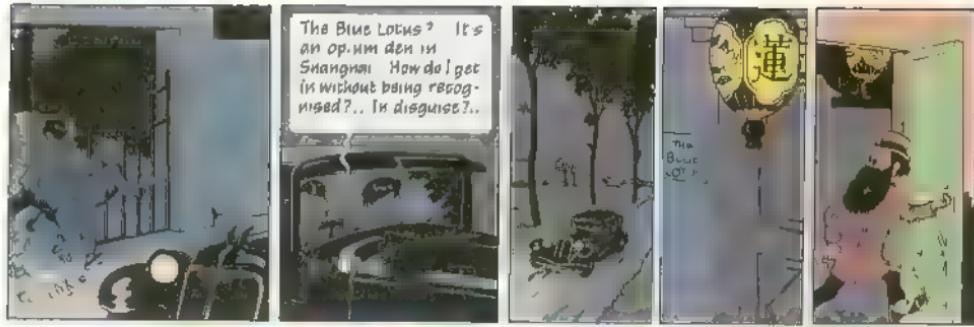
No no no!
And when
I say no, I
mean no!

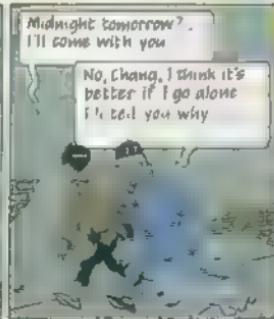
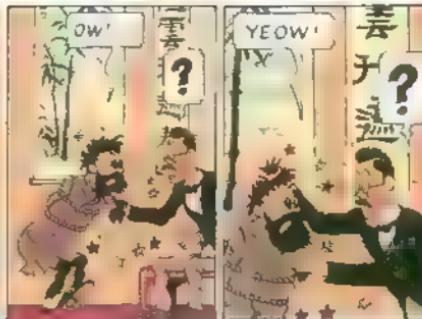


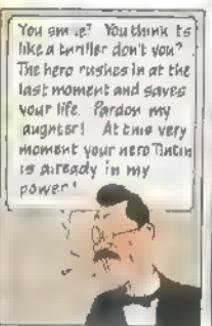
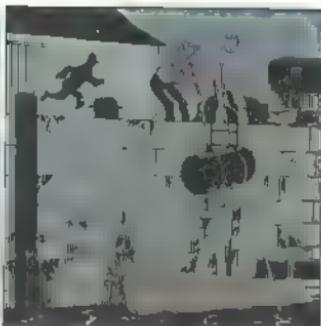
They know everything, I heard
them. They know Mr Wang has
been looking after us. They're
going to kidnap him tonight
with his wife and son...
And us too if they find us
there...











Something tells me you weren't expecting this sort of reception when you came back!

'Too true!'

I knew perfectly well you were in the barrel. You were at the Blue Lotus last night and had a good laugh at my expense no doubt. You heard the orders I gave Yamato... Everything had gone your way. But one of my men saw you leave and I acted me

I told myself you certainly wouldn't be able to resist such a good opportunity so I set a trap. I told them to save you a one then coached the top of one barrel, and everything happened as I'd foreseen!

Whatever that you brought anyway! Ah here's an offer from yours. He doesn't want to witness your execution!

We got him
Grand Master

Mr Rastapopoulos

Exactly

Rastapopoulos! Roberto Rastapopoulos! You've been trying to spike my guns for along time. Me Rastapopoulos is no off drug smugglers. Rastapopoulos, who went over a cliff near Gapajawa... and you thought I died. Rastapopoulos alive and well. And the way coming out on top... you leader of the gang? Impossible!

Bring in the others Yamato

You aren't conviced, eh? Look at that. Now do you believe me?

The sign of
the Pharaoh
is in Doku!

Here, take this
It's for you

Here, take this
It's for you

Lao Tzu said... You must find the way... I've found it. It's quite easy. I'm going to cut off your head. Then you too will know the truth.

You're... you're absolutely
sure there isn't any risk
for us?

No, as soon as he's done
the job Yamato will take
care of him



(1) See Cigars of the Pharaoh



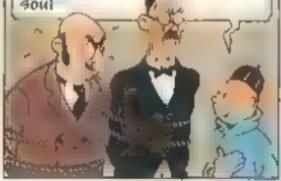
Yeo, it went without a n com
The crew of the
Har ka Maru
didn't have time
to say Dutch!

I bow my old head in
respect before the courage
of your youth, Chang!

Now you are free
Mrs Wang!

We gentlemen! It's my turn to
do the explaining Mr Mitsubishi
.. Were you really silly enough
to believe I'd walk straight into
the lion's jaws? You must
think I'm a very
simplie soul

I knew perfectly well I'd been
seen saving the Blue Lotus. None
theless, I decided to visit godown No 9 but I took a few precautions...
Last night the crew of the
'Har ka Maru' were surprised
by the Sons of the Dragon
and put in irons. Some of our
friends hid in the barrels to
be delivered to you. Others
waited for your men then
gave them a hand unloading
the barrels...
You know the rest...



Three men stay here to keep guard
over the prisoners. The others
search the house. Chang and I
will go this way.





SHANGHAI NEWS

上海報

FANG HSI-YING FOUND: Professor Prisoner in Opium Den

SHANGHAI, Wednesday.
Professor Fang Hsi-ying has been found! The good news was flashed in this morning.

Last week eminent scholar Fang disappeared on his way home from a party given by a friend. Police efforts

to trace him were unavailing. No clues were found.

Young European reporter Tintin joined in the hunt for the missing man of science. Earlier we reported incidents involving Tintin and the occupying Japanese forces. Secret society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in

Professor Fang Hsi-ying, pictured just after his release.

ing Tintin and the occupying Japanese forces. Secret society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in

police custody.

A wireless transmitter was found by police Blue Lotus opium den. The transmitter was used by the drug smugglers to communicate with their ships on the high seas. Information radiated included sea routes, ports to be avoided, points of embarkation and unloading.

Home of Japanese subject Mitsubishi was also searched. No comment, any police on reports of seizure of top-secret documents. Unconfirmed rumours suggest the papers concern undercover political activity by a neighbouring power. Speculation mounts that they disclose recent Shanghai-Nanking railway incident as a pretext for extended Japanese occupation. League of Nations officials in Geneva will study the captured documents.

TINTIN'S OWN STORY

This morning, hero of the hour Mr Tintin, talked to us about his adventures.

The young reporter is the guest of Mr Wang Chen-wei at his hotel's picturesque villa on the Nanking road. When we called, our hero, young and smiling, could this really be the scourge of the treacherous Shanghai gangsters!

After our greetings and congratulations, we asked Mr Tintin to tell us how he succeeded in smashing the most dangerous organisation.

Mr Wang, a tall, elderly, venerable

man with an impish smile said: "You must tell the world it is entirely due to him that my wife, my son and I are alive today!"

With these words our interview was concluded, and we said farewell to the friendly reporter and his kindly host.

L.G.T.

Young Justice carry Tintin through Shanghai streets.



The conclusions of the Sub-Committee leave no room for doubt. The documents seized in Shanghai provide irrefutable proof. The attack upon the Shanghai-Nanking railway was planned and executed by a Japanese subject working upon direct orders from his government!

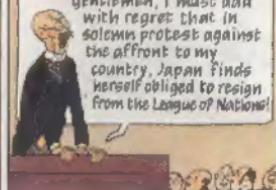


I shall be interested to hear the Japanese delegate's reply ...

Me, too... Look, he's going to speak now...

Gentlemen, make no mistake! I categorically deny the accusations contained in the report of the 83rd Sub-Committee. These accusations are an insult to which Japan declines to make any response other than silence and contempt. Nevertheless, to prove that the integrity of my country is beyond doubt ...

... I am authorised to announce that my government has ordered its troops to withdraw from Chinese territories occupied after the incident on the Shanghai-Nanking railway. To that, gentlemen, I must add with regret that in solemn protest against the affront to my country, Japan finds herself obliged to resign from the League of Nations!

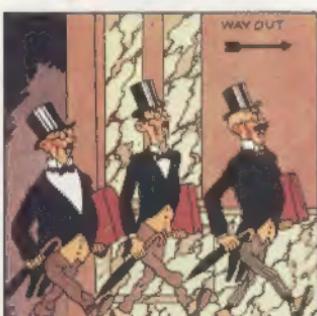


Meanwhile, in Shanghai...

I have wonderful news for you: my son is cured!... Professor Fang Hsi-ying has discovered an antidote to the terrible poison of madness!

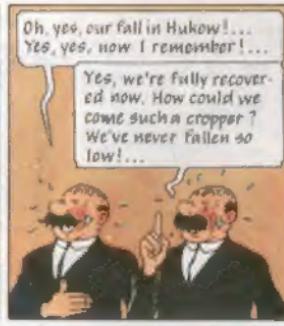
He has?... Oh, how glad I am!

Venerable Master, two gentlemen wish to speak to Mr Tintin.





Oh, yes, our famous fall in Hukow!

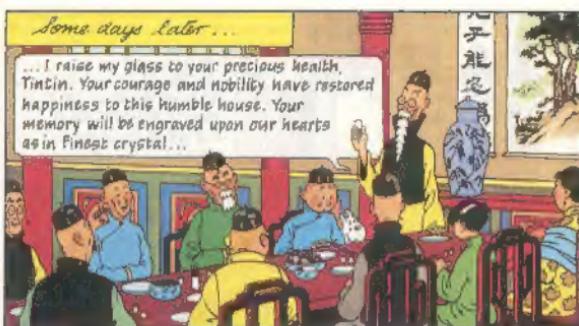


Now it's time to go. We must leave you.



Some days later...

... I raise my glass to your precious health, Tintin. Your courage and nobility have restored happiness to this humble house. Your memory will be engraved upon our hearts as in finest crystal...



There is one who, if such is possible, will miss you even more than I. Chang, who has already known the sadness of losing his parents. Chang, who found in you a brother. If he wishes, he will be my son, the brother of my own poor son to whom our Honourable friend Fang Hsi-ying has restored his reason ...



What is the matter, Chang?

There is a rainbow in my heart, Venerable Lady... I weep because Tintin is going but the sunshines because I have a new mother and father!



Farewell, noble Tintin. May other friendships lighten your days in your country in the West, and accompany you along the way!



The next morning...

Goodbye, Tintin... Good luck go with you!

I wish the same for you, Chang!... Goodbye!



TOOOOT



TOOOOT

